

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-01

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O R 061130Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7323

UNCLAS TANANARIVE 0995

FOR: IBS COVERAGE DESK, AFRICAN DIVISION

IAA & IPS AF BRANCH

SUBJECT: SUMMATIONS TO BEGIN TODAY

1. THE TANANARIVE "TRIAL OF THE CENTURY", AS THE MALAGASY MEDIA CALL IT, IS ENTERING ITS FINAL PHASE TODAY. AFTER HAVING TAKEN THE INTERROGATORY OF THE 298 DEFENDANTS AND LISTENED TO THE DEPOSITIONS OF SOME 30 WITNESSES, THE SPECIAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL, PRESIDED OVER BY COURT OF APPEALS PRESIDENT RABEMALANTO, WILL NOW HEAR THE SUMMATIONS OF THE PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE (REQUISITOIRE AND PLAIDOIRIES).

2. THE TRIAL OPENED MARCH 21. ITS DAILY MORNING AND AFTER-NOON SESSIONS HAVE BEEN OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS. THE RADIO, TV, AND THE WRITTEN PRESS HAVE GIVEN COMPLETE DAILY REPORTS ON THE PROCEEDINGS.

3. AN AMNESTY DECREE PARDONED 265 OF THE DEFENDANTS ON MAY 15 (SEE TANANARIVE 905). ONE OF THE FOUR MILITARY JUDGES, GENERAL PHILIBERT RAMAROLAHY, RESIGNED FROM THE MILITARY TRIBUNAL, MAY 27.

4. MADAGASCAR CONTINUES TO BE UNDER MARTIAL LAW AND CURFEW REGULATIONS (5 AM TO 10 PM IN TANANARIVE).

5. THE GOVERNMENTAL NEWS AGENCY "MADAGASCAR PRESSE" ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL YESTERDAY OF THE PARISIAN LAWYER, MAITRE BADINTER, WHO WILL DEFEND MR. ANDRE RESAMPA.

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6. HERE ARE A FEW EXCERPTS FROM THIS MORNING'S "MADAGASCAR MATIN":

... EN PRINCIPE, LES AVOCATS DE LA PARTIE CIVILE PRENDONT LES PREMIERS LA PAROLE, CAR SI LA FAMILLE DU COLONEL RICHARD RATSIMANDRAVA S'EST DECONSTITUEE APRES L'AMNISTIE ACCORDEE AUX 265 PREVENUS, CEPENDANT, LES FAMILLES DES GARDES DE CORPS DU CHEF DE L'ETAT NE SE SONT PAS DECONSTITUEES.

APRES LA PARTIE CIVILE, LE MINISTERE PUBLIC, C'EST-A-DIRE, LE PROCUREUR GENERAL ROGER ANDRIAMISEZA ET L'AVOCAT GENERAL SAMUEL RAJAONA, PRENDRA LA PAROLE. CES DEUX HOMMES ANALYSERONT LES DOSSIERS UN PAR UN ET DETERMINERONT LA PART DE RESPONSABILITE DE CHAQUE PROTAGONISTE DE CETTE AFFAIRE QUI, COMME ON LE SAIT, COUTA LA VIE AU COLONEL RICHARD RATSIMANDRAVA, CHEF DE L'ETAT ET A DEUX DE SES GARDES DE CORPS DANS LA NUIT DU 11 FEVRIER 1975.

APRES LES REQUISITOIRES, LES PLAIDOIRIES...

A LA FIN DE TOUT CELA, LES ACCUSES SERONT APPELES UN PAR UN A LA BARRE, POUR DIRE LEURS DERNIERS MOTS A LA COUR. LE TRIBUNAL MILITAIRE SPECIAL DELIBERERA ENSUITE ET RENDRA SON VERDICT...

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## Message Attributes

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